

As a safety professional for the past 35 years I do not think cell phones should be used inflight. If an emergency should arise that required a passenger to contact someone on the ground they would do so regardless of the rule against using cell phones inflight. To allow the general usage of phones is a gross violation of the general cabin safety not to mention the intrusion upon other passengers who would be forced to over hear other people's conversation while onboard a noisy airplane. If one has ever sat in a packed boarding area awaiting a flight they would know how people tend to talk very loudly into their phones because they can't hear due to the noise of an airport. Sitting aboard a plane before departure from the gate is bad enough; listening to people conduct business in the confinement of the plane, on the ground, without the noise from being inflight is extremely annoying; imagine that 3 fold while inflight. It's hard enough to talk to passengers these days with noise reduction headsets. It's hard enough to get them to be quiet when doing the safety announcement. When passengers board the plane while talking on their phones you can't even make eye contact with them. Cell phone usage should not be allowed while inflight.

Thank you,

Janice Aas Flight Attendant for United Airlines